

1697. entirely dispersed. Least of all was the Count de Frontenac deceived, but he had only two courses to pursue; one, to proceed with all his forces to the Iroquois country; the other to dissemble. By the King's orders the former was out of the question; he had therefore to resolve to shut his eyes to the conduct of these Indians, or at least but half reveal the resentment their conduct inspired. The General's reply to the Oneida chief was that he gave those who deputed him till the month of September to determine to come all together and ask peace; and that term passed, they should find in him only an implacable enemy.

They renew  
hostilities.

He counted little more on the effect of these threats, than on the promises of the Iroquois; but to all appearance he did not expect to see them begin their raids within a few days. Then he felt the utter folly of conciliatory measures with a nation whom he had pushed too hard ever to win over, and whom he had not weakened sufficiently to prevent their doing us great injury; but he had another cause of disquiet, which touched his most sensitive spot, as it involved the diminution of his authority. The occasion was this.

Troubles  
among our  
allies.

Quite a number of Miamis settled on Maramek River,<sup>1</sup> one of the streams emptying into the eastern part of Lake Michigan, had started late in August of the previous year, to unite once more with their brethren settled on the St. Joseph's River. On their way they were attacked by the Sioux, who killed several. The Miamis of St. Joseph learning this hostility, resolved to avenge their brethren. They pursued the Sioux to their own country, and found them intrenched in a fort with some Frenchmen of the class known as Coureurs de Bois, (bushlopers). They nevertheless attacked them repeatedly with great resolution; but were every time repulsed, and at last compelled to retire, after losing several of their braves. On their way home, meeting other Frenchmen carrying arms and ammunition to the Sioux, they seized all they had, but did them no other harm. They informed the Ottawas of

<sup>1</sup> On Charlevoix's map of Louisiana it is Maramet.